Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 05-691

Release Date: March 16, 2005

PARTIES ARE INVITED TO COMMENT ON APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW AND PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER REVISING INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORM 499-A

CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 97-21

Comment Date: March 30, 2005 Reply Comment Date: April 13, 2005

On December 9, 2004, the Wireline Competition Bureau released an order modifying the deadline for revised Form 499-A filings that would decrease regulatory fees or contributions to universal service, interstate Telecommunications Relay Service, number administration, or local number portability. In response to this order, on January 10, 2005, Business Discount Plan, Inc., Qwest Communications International Inc., and SBC Communications Inc. filed applications for review, and Sprint Corporation filed a petition for reconsideration. Interested parties are invited to comment on these filings.

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¹ See Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review – Streamlined Contributor Reporting Requirements Associated with Administration of Telecommunications Relay Service, North American Numbering Plan, Local Number Portability, and Universal Service Support Mechanisms; Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Order, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 97-21, DA 04-3669 (rel. Dec. 9, 2004) (Form 499-A Order).

² See Business Discount Plan, Inc. Application for Review, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 97-21, filed January 10, 2005; Qwest Communications International Inc. Application for Review, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 97-21, filed January 10, 2005; SBC Communications Inc. Application for Review, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 97-21, filed January 10, 2005. On March 9, 2005, the Wireline Competition Bureau denied Qwest Communications International Inc.'s petition requesting a stay of the Form 499-A Order. See Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review – Streamlined Contributor Reporting Requirements Associated with Administration of Telecommunications Relay Service, North American Numbering Plan, Local Number Portability, and Universal Service Support Mechanisms; Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Order, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 97-21, DA 05-622 (rel. Mar. 9, 2005). In addition, we note that AT&T Corp. filed comments in response to the Applications for Review on January 25, 2005. See AT&T Corp. Comments, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 97-21, filed January 25, 2005.

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments on or before **March 30, 2005**, and reply comments on or before **April 13, 2005**. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies.³

Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, however, commenters must transmit one electronic copy of the comments to each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, commenters must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). The Commission's contractor, Natek, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

Parties who choose to file by paper also must send three paper copies of their filing to Sheryl Todd, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-B540, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition, commenters must send diskette copies to the Commission's copy contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc. (BCPI), Portals II 445 12th Street, Suite CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554.

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this proceeding will be conducted as a permit-but-disclose proceeding in which ex parte communications are permitted subject to disclosure. For further information, contact Anita Cheng, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-7400, TTY (202) 418-0484.

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³ See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 Fed. Reg. 24121 (1998).